

DREF operation



Equatorial Guinea: Fire in Malabo

DREF operation n° MDRGQ001
GLIDE n° FR-2010-000082-GNQ
27 April, 2010

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

CHF 36,139 (USD 33,680 or EUR 25,175) has been allocated from the Federation Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea Society in delivering immediate assistance to 50 families, i.e. 250 beneficiaries. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Serious fire first occurred in the Camaremi neighbourhood of Malabo in the night of 12 to 13 April, 2010. As the populations were still struggling to manage the consequences, another fire occurred in the night of 14 to 15 April, 2010 in the Alcaide neighbourhood, still in Malabo, the capital of Equatorial Guinea. Fifty families, i.e. 250 people, have been left homeless and deprived of all their belongings. The volunteers of the



Fire completely destroyed many houses like this one in Camaremi and Alcaide neighbourhoods of Malabo, and families have been left homeless / Manuel Ndong, Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea

Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea assisted fire fighters in stopping the fire. They also provided first-aid assistance to the injured that were registered at the time of the disaster. Given that the victims of the fire have no means of survival presently, this DREF operation is intended to cover their urgent non-food items needs such as blankets, mats, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, cooking kits and soap. In addition, financial support will be provided to help affected families rebuild their houses. The volunteers of the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea will also contribute to the construction work. Moreover, sensitization to first-aid actions in the event of fire and the behaviours that should be left to help prevent fire will be performed.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months, and will therefore be completed by 30 July, 2010; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 30 October, 2010). This is the first DREF issued by the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea.

[<click here for the DREF budget;](#)
[here for contact details;](#)
[here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

The situation

Serious fire first occurred in the Camaremi neighbourhood of Malabo in the night of 12 to 13 April, 2010. As the populations were still struggling to manage the consequences, another fire occurred in the night of 14 to 15 April, 2010 in the Alcaide neighbourhood, still in Malabo, the capital city of Equatorial Guinea. Camaremi and Alcaide are overpopulated neighbourhoods where houses are mostly made of wood and other materials that cannot resist to fire. Moreover, houses are built anarchically, with reduced or no space in between houses. The disaster is reported to have been caused by a short-circuit in one of these houses. The anarchical arrangement of the houses facilitated the rapid spread of the fire that had burnt down to ashes most of the houses before the intervention, though rapid and by night, of fire fighters assisted by Equatorial Guinea Red Cross volunteers. Fifty families, i.e. 250 people, have been left homeless and deprived of all their belongings. Most of the victims are children who have since become extremely vulnerable as they are exposed to bad weather. The number of victims is relatively high due to the poor arrangement of houses in these neighbourhoods, which somehow delayed the intervention. No death was registered, and Red Cross volunteers quickly provided first aid assistance to the few people with light wounds found on the site of the disaster. While the majority of the fire-affected people have been sleeping in the open air, with no food or any other property, a few lucky ones have found temporary refuge in relatives' houses. The evaluation conducted by the Equatorial Guinea Red Cross volunteers and authorities has revealed that the victims of fire would appreciate any support for rebuilding their houses. However, it is clear that they also need food, clothes, blankets, mats, mosquito nets, tarpaulins, cooking kits and soap.

Coordination and partnerships

Equatorial Guinea Government officials and Red Cross authorities conducted a joint visit to the site of the disaster to assess the scope of the disaster and the damages. Fire fighters and Red Cross volunteers contributed to stopping the fire. Presently, no other actor is reported to be assisting the fire-affected people.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Equatorial Guinea Red Cross volunteers participated in efforts to stop the fire, along side with fire fighters. The volunteers have also been assisting victims in finding a temporary shelter that could protect them from bad weather while waiting for more appropriate assistance.

The needs

Selection of people to be reached: The people to be reached are those people that have completely lost their houses and their belongings. These are 50 families, i.e. 250 people, mostly women and children with no other means of survival. Considering the precarious situation in which they have been living since 15 April 2010, the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea, after consultation with these people, has decided that they urgently need support to help rebuild their houses. They also need food, cooking kits, soap, clothes, blankets, mats and mosquito nets.

The calculation based on internationally recognized standards for the 250 people shows that they need 125 blankets, 125 mats, 100 tarpaulins, 100 mosquito nets, 50 cooking kits, and 250 pieces of soap of 200 g each or 125 pieces of soap of 400g each (the decision will be made based on availability in the market). To contribute to the rebuilding of the houses, each of the 50 families will also need financial support to locally purchase building materials.

Most of the non-food items needed here are already available in the regional stock in Yaoundé. IFRC's logistics department in Yaoundé will make sure that these materials are airlifted to Malabo to enable appropriate response as soon as possible. This DREF will then be used to replenish the regional stock. The materials will be sent to Malabo by air freight as Malabo is an island and cannot be reached by road.

Intervention strategy

Considering the scope of the disaster, the Federation will provide technical and financial support to the Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea. In this particular case, there is not the need to deploy a Federation staff or an RDRT member to Malabo. However, the newly arrived Regional Representative will seize this opportunity to make his first mission to Equatorial Guinea. He will also monitor the implementation of the operation as the main activity planned will be the distribution of materials. The Red Cross of Equatorial Guinea will contact other local institutions specialized in fire fighting (for example the government fire fighters) for proper training of Red Cross volunteers ahead of the implementation of this operation. The trained volunteers will in turn sensitize the populations to fire management. The distribution will be made by 12 Red Cross volunteers organized in two teams with a team leader each. All of them will be supervised by the National Disaster Management Director. In addition to the distribution, Red Cross volunteers will sensitize the populations as a whole to the acts that are likely to alleviate the effects of fire in the event of a fire outbreak. They will also present preventive actions, and most importantly the things that the population should not do to prevent this kind of disaster.

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)	
Outcome: To contribute to improving the living conditions of 50 families (250 people) affected by fire in Malabo.	
Outputs (expected results) The non-food items needed are made available to the Equatorial guinea Red Cross as soon as possible; The 50 families actually receive Red Cross assistance.	Activities planned <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In collaboration with IFRC logistics department in Yaoundé, purchase 125 blankets, 125 mats, 100 tarpaulins, 100 mosquito nets, 50 cooking kits, and 250 pieces of soap of 200g each or 125 pieces of soap of 400g each; • Transport these items to Malabo; • Distribute the items to the 50 families; • Ensure monitoring and evaluation of distribution activities; • Report on distribution activities.

Emergency shelter	
Outcome: To contribute to improving the living conditions of 50 families (250 people) those have lost their houses to the fire in Malabo.	
Outputs (expected results) The beneficiaries and the general population have understood the need to adopt risk-free behaviour; Shelter solution is proposed to the targeted 50 families.	Activities planned <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train Equatorial Guinea Red Cross volunteers on fire management (the training will be facilitated by Government fire fighters); • Organize sensitization sessions on the acts that are likely to alleviate the effects of fire in the event of a fire outbreak, and also presenting preventive actions, and most importantly the things that the population should not do to prevent this kind of disaster; • Distribute financial support to each of the targeted 50 families to locally purchase building materials; • Assist the 50 families in rebuilding their houses; • Report on activities carried out

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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[<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Shelter - Relief	11,250	11,250
Shelter - Transitional		0
Construction - Housing		0
Construction - Facilities / Infrastructure		0
Construction - Materials		0
Clothing & Textiles		0
Food		0
Seeds & Plants		0
Water & Sanitation		0
Medical & First Aid	3,062	3,062
Teaching Materials		0
Utensils & Tools		0
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	3,938	3,938
Total Supplies	18,250	18,250
Land & Buildings		0
Vehicles		0
Computer & Telecom		0
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment		0
Medical Equipment		0
Other Machinery & Equipment		0
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	0	0
Storage		0
Distribution & Monitoring	500	500
Transport & Vehicle Costs	6,250	6,250
Total Transport & Storage	6,750	6,750
International Staff		0
Regionally Deployed Staff		0
National Staff		0
National Society Staff	888	888
Other Staff benefits		0
Consultants		0
Total Personnel	888	888
Workshops & Training	3,865	3,865
Total Workshops & Training	3,865	3,865
Travel	2,180	2,180
Information & Public Relation		0
Office Costs	625	625
Communications	875	875
Professional Fees		0
Financial Charges	500	500
Other General Expenses		0
Total General Expenditure	4,180	4,180
Cash Transfers to National Societies		0
Cash Transfers to 3rd parties		0
Total Contributions & Transfers	0	0

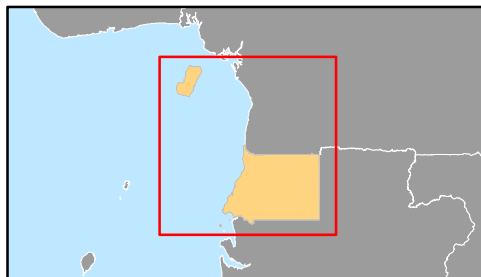
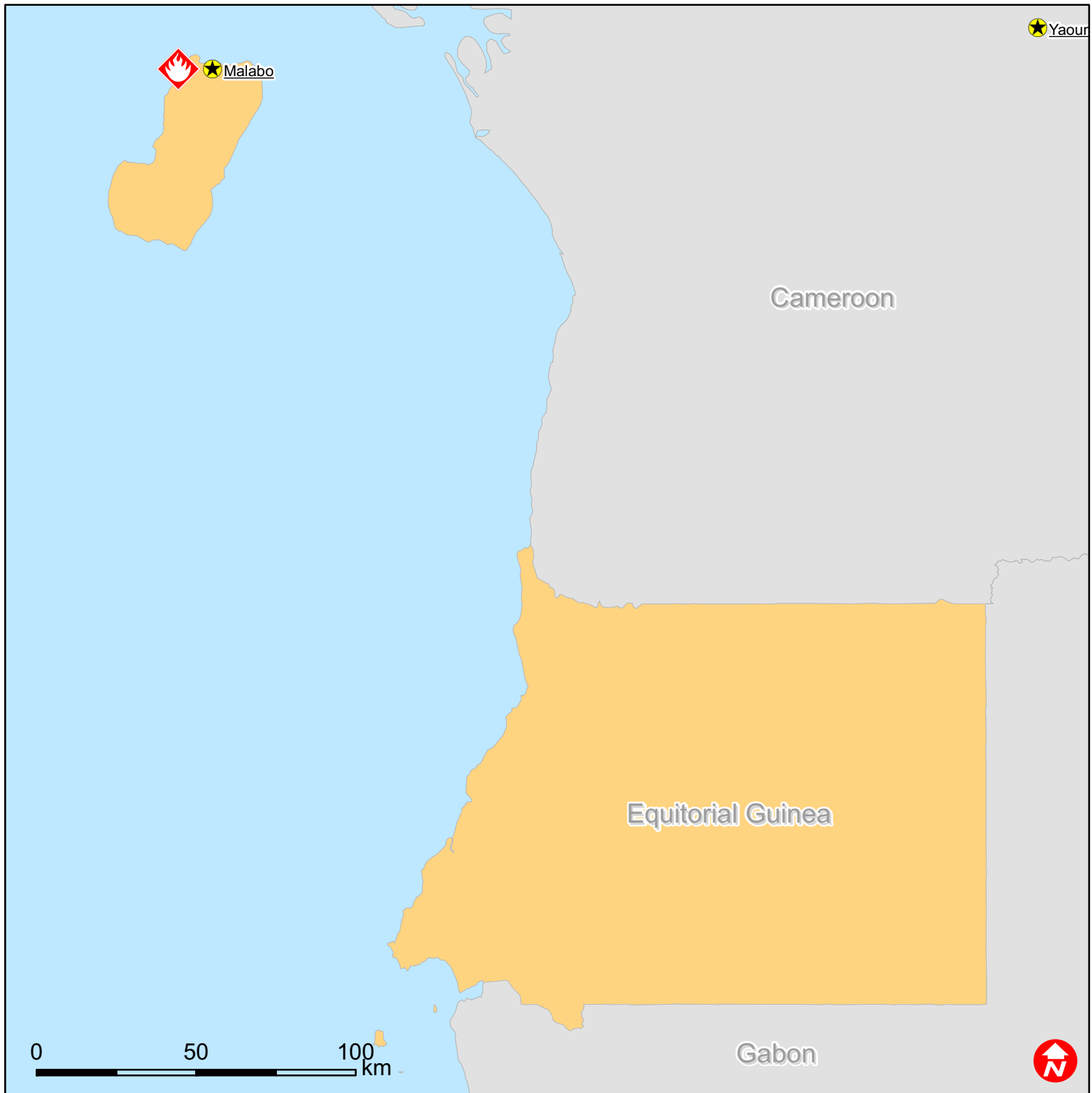
Program Support	2,206	2,206
Total Programme Support	2,206	2,206

Services & Recoveries		0
Shared Services		0
Total Services	0	0

TOTAL BUDGET	36,139	36,139
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Equatorial Guinea: Fire



Fires in Malabo